

Ward 6 Staff



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Ward 6 Newsletter

Tucson First

September 29, 2014

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Arizonans for Gun Safety



Last week I shared the news about the ASU College of Public Programs announcement of our partnership's approval by the CDC for the National Violent Death Reporting System program. That's the deal where statewide law enforcement agencies, coroners, and other agencies submit the circumstances surrounding violent death events to the Feds so they can include it in a national database from which public policy proposals will be developed. For many of us, gathering

that information so we can create policy to address gun deaths is pretty basic. The NRA and other gun groups have resisted any data collection.

Led by AzGS, several of our local and State based gun policy groups have acknowledged the importance of this development. Moms Demand Action, Everytown for Gun Safety, the Phoenix AzGS chapter, and survivors who were involved with our own January 8th shooting have rallied to applaud the NVDRS announcement. I want to open by recognizing those groups for their work in this area



Important Phone Numbers

Tucson Police Department
911 or nonemergency
791-4444

Water Issues
791-4133
Emergency: 791-4133

Street Maintenance
791-3154

Graffiti Removal
792-2489

Abandoned Shopping Carts
791-3171

Neighborhood Resources
837-5013

SunTran/SunLink
792-9222

Environmental Services
791-3171

Park Wise
791-5071

Planning and Development Services 791-5550

Pima County Animal Control
243-5900

Pima County Vector Control
Cockroach: 443-6501
Mosquito: 740-2760

Continued: A Message From Steve

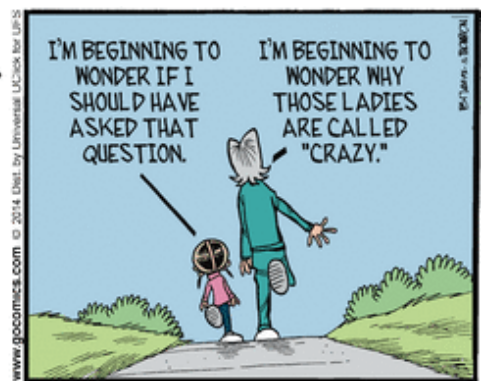
and thank them for hanging in there and making a difference in changing the whole discussion on this topic.

No local media picked up the importance of the announcement. I guess it's tough for them to make collecting data an eye-grabbing news story. But for those of us who are working in the public policy arena, it's meaningful to know that Arizona will join 31 other States in collecting and sending information to the CDC on gun incidents that occur in our state. Here's a recap of how the ASU folks handled release of the information:

The ASU Center for Violence Prevention and Community Safety will begin gathering and analyzing data on murders and suicides in Arizona for the National Violent Death Reporting System. The data will help state and local officials better understand when and how violent deaths occur by linking information from law enforcement, medical examiners, vital statistics, and crime laboratories. The collected data will help public health practitioners and violence prevention professionals develop prevention and intervention strategies to reduce violent deaths in Arizona.

A few months ago, we upgraded the trauma kits our police officers carry in their vehicles. Having that new equipment has saved lives. You don't hear about it, but it's happening out on the streets. The same will be true of the public health policy that will come from the NVDRS data. There's a lot of good going on that isn't considered 'above the fold' newsworthy. I thought you should know.

Best Friends 'Trap/Neuter/Return' Program



In August, the County signed onto a program to address the feral cat population in Tucson. The TNR program is funded by an approximate \$1M grant from Best Friends Animal Society. What they do is trap free-roaming cats, spay/neuter them, provide treatment if needed and then release them back to their outdoor homes. It's necessary to both curb the number of feral cats we have wandering around and to reduce the number of cats being euthanized out at the Pima Animal Care Center.

Because the program will necessarily increase the cost for the County spay/neuter effort, there's a financial impact on the PACC folks. We fund PACC. If their costs were going to increase – legitimately – and they anticipated passing some of those costs onto the City and surrounding jurisdictions, the correct thing to do would have been for them to contact

us to make sure we had the funding in place to cover the expected cost increase. That didn't happen. They approved the program after we had set our FY'15 budget and then announced a nearly quarter of a million dollar charge to us. I'd call that bad form.

But the program is a long-term cost saver, so it's worth trying to work out a solution.

Until a contact shared with me a series of exchanges between our staff and the Best Friends folks, I wasn't aware that the program was in jeopardy. In fact, last Friday I learned that if we didn't respond to them by the end of that workday, they were ready to pull their million bucks and give it to another jurisdiction. When I learned of that, I called their representative in New York and committed to meet with her this week. I also invited City and County people so we can all talk about how to save the program.

Several of us are praying for a good outcome.

Earlier in the week I had a similar experience where another contact shared an email exchange with me that the City and County were having on the charges we pay to PACC. That's the one that prompted the County Administrator to issue his 'pay or else' memo. Here's the full text of that:



MEMORANDUM

Date: September 23, 2014

To: Jan Leshar
Deputy County Administrator
for Medical and Health Services

Dr. Francisco Garcia, Director
Health Department

From: C.H. Huckelberry
County Administrator

Re: Pima Animal Care Center Cost to Municipalities

As you know, based on Board of Supervisors and staff leadership, the County has invested a significant amount of new resources in the Pima Animal Care Center (PACC) to make it a more humane facility, reversing the euthanasia rate within two to three years. This is a result of the investments the Board has been willing to make. I firmly believe our investments have been well made and that our policy of non-euthanasia is the best and most humane response to this issue.

Recently, some jurisdictions have voiced concerns over their share of these increased costs. These increased costs are primarily driven by the County's decision to pursue a non-euthanasia policy for the care of animals. Our decision will remain unchanged and we will continue to incur these costs over and above what has previously been spent by the County on animal care functions.



Important Phone Numbers

Senator John
McCain (R)
520-670-6334

Senator Jeff
Flake (R)
520-575-8633

Congressman
Ron Barber (D)
(2nd District)
520-881-3588

Congressman
Raul Grijalva (D)
(3rd District)
520-622-6788

Governor Janice
Brewer (R)
602-542-4331
Tucson office:
628-6580

Mayor Jonathan
Rothschild
791-4201

ZoomTucson Map
[http://
maps.tucsonaz.gov/
/zoomTucson/](http://maps.tucsonaz.gov/zoomTucson/)

Municipalities should be given the opportunity to choose a less costly option; therefore, please develop a euthanasia option for municipalities. Such a policy would mean that animals taken or received from a certain municipal jurisdiction would be euthanized at the earliest possible time pursuant to the existing County policy and state law regarding such. This would allow certain costs to be reduced for municipalities for the provision of animal care services. While this is not a policy I would recommend for the County, it should be an option available to municipalities. When you have the basic outline of such a policy, please ask the Animal Care Advisory Committee to review it before we ask the Board of Supervisors for direction.

Choosing a euthanasia policy would allow the municipality to avoid the spay/neuter fees embedded in our operating costs. In addition, kennel space requirements would be reduced, as would medical care expenses, thereby reducing their costs. If the municipality chooses this option, I would ask they train one or more of their staff in euthanasia practices, as I do not desire to place on our staff the increased emotional burden of carrying out additional euthanasia.

Finally, municipalities do have the option to operate their own independent animal care facilities. We would certainly assist any jurisdiction that would want to be responsible for its own animal care services.

CHH/anc

c: The Honorable Chair and Members, Pima County Board of Supervisors

Just as I suggested in the TNR case above, the correct approach would have been a conversation before costs were incurred to allow the jurisdictions to weigh in on how, or if, they could participate in funding. The City's share was over \$800K, and the bill arrived months after we had finalized our budget.

We have a contract with the County for operations at PACC. It's not for capital or administrative costs. Those sorts of costs were included in the bill we were sent. While some of them may have perhaps been legitimate topics to bring to the table for sharing the costs, that conversation happens before the costs are committed, not after.

In fairness, there's a regional advisory committee that talks about these sorts of issues. The City has been asleep at the wheel in making sure we had a representative present at those meetings. I've also indicated to staff that they need to get that slot filled and fill it with somebody who's accountable for participating. But that's an advisory committee, not a governing body that can commit funds to any of the jurisdictions involved.

I have requested a study session for the 2nd meeting in October so the M&C can hear from staff on this issue, and talk about our role in paying for regional animal care. As I noted last year when trying to get a larger City contribution to spay/neuter, it makes long-term fiscal sense, and it makes immediate sense from the standpoint of fewer dogs and cats being killed out at the shelter. Here are a few ending thoughts:

Yet again, I learned about nearly \$2M in issues through contacts in the media and elsewhere, not from City staff. That's unacceptable.

The County committed to significant financial obligations, assuming support from other jurisdictions without having engaged any of them prior to signing on the dotted line.

The spay/neuter TNR program and the work being done out at the Pima Animal Care facility is important regional work. It saves lives, and money. We need to be partners.

There's a group called Tucson Residents for Responsible Government. They often indicate a frustration in how communications are handled between governments and the citizens. From what you've just read, I suspect it'll come as no surprise that I share their pain.

The whole issue was unnecessary, and exhausting.



Getting Arizona Involved in Neighborhoods

And speaking of TRRG, and neighborhood engagement more generally, on Wednesday, October 8th several neighborhood groups will be participating again in what was originally called National Night Out. That outdoor event was held in August, a time that many felt wouldn't get it the pop it deserved. As a result, now we're doing it in October.

Tucson Police are going to be stopping by the individual neighborhood meetings to make contact and show support. The intent is to promote crime prevention, build relationships, and really send a message to criminals who might think this community is an easy mark when it comes to neighbors watching out for one another. We have several very connected neighborhood listservs that get active when they see suspicious activity occurring.

Palo Verde neighborhood will hold their GAIN gathering on the 8th at 6pm at 3235 E. Seneca. Feldman's will also start at 6pm @ 1249 N. 3rd. If you're in other neighborhoods and would like to find out where/when they're doing their GAIN meetings, feel free to contact us and we'll help you track down that information. Or you can always contact your neighborhood association leadership and get that information.

Operation Snowbird



Last week the Air Force released the draft of its environmental assessment related to what they broadly call the "Total Force Training Mission for Visiting Units." More generally, it's what we know as Operation Snowbird (OSB). The report was issued in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and was intended to demonstrate what, if any, significant impacts the expansion of Snowbird has had on the surrounding community. If you'd like to see the

whole report, you can by going to <http://www.dm.af.mil/library/tftea.asp>. The draft report minus the supporting documents is 142 pages long, so I'll just give a few brief thoughts and let you do your own review. We're in a 30 day comment period, so if you want to provide your input to the DOD, you need to have it in by about October 20th.

OSB began in 1975. It was intended to be a winter month operation in which Air National Guard units from northern tier bases (cold weather) would come here and train. Since that

time, it has expanded to a 12 month operation involving international and domestic groups training from Tucson. The conclusion of the Draft EA is that that level of expansion has had no significant impact on the surrounding area. It's called a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI).

One interesting part of the report is found on page 37. It's where they establish the baseline for comparing the 'before' and 'after' to arrive at the FONSI. One might think they'd use the '75 date as the baseline, but they chose 2009 instead. Their reasoning was a bit challenging for me.

Because the aircraft that were flown in 1975 when OSB started are largely no longer used and there have been multiple capital improvements to the base since then, they felt using original conditions to compare to current ones would not be "forward looking." They didn't want to begin with 35-year-old conditions in assessing whether the changes had had a significant local impact. But I thought that was the whole point of the EA. Instead they averaged the number of 'sorties' that have occurred annually through Snowbird in the past 7 years, and chose the year within that time frame that was closest to that average. The average was 1,380. In 2009 there were 1,408, so that became the year from which to compare for determining impact. (A 'sortie' is simply a single flying mission of a combat aircraft.)

If your goal is to assess a 'before/after' impact, once you define the baseline, you've effectively framed the conclusion.

Similarly, the manner in which they measured noise volume was at least arguably self-serving. Instead of taking a reading of individual aircraft to see how each sounds on the ground, they elected to take an average extended over a 24 hour period. They chose that in order to account for the impact of factors such as atmospheric conditions, power settings on the aircraft, aircraft speed, altitude, engine fan speed, etc. The thinking was that each flight is a different test, so doing the average measure adjusts for all of the variables.

It also doesn't tell you how loud individual single event levels are. But them's are the rules, so that's what they used.

In arriving at the FONSI, they assessed noise, air quality impacts, socioeconomic impacts on the homes affected by the overflights, public safety, and impacts on cultural resources on the ground (e.g., vibration impacting historic structures). The conclusion was that what we've seen since 2009 hasn't had much of an impact when assessed against those factors. They also felt the expansion of the program would only impact people living within about 100' of the original runway. Again, setting the 2009 baseline was key to coming to that conclusion.

Given how and from which baseline they measured, I'd have to agree with the Finding of No Significant Impact. But those 'givens' are at the core of the FONSI result. If you don't accept them as the premise, you may not end up with the same Finding of No Significant Impact.

Ok, we have the result. Now what? The 'what' is that we do what we can to protect the existence of DM, and that we don't exclude ourselves from the conversation about missions

appropriate to an urban setting. To that end, our team in D.C. has commissioned a study by a consultant who is familiar with all-things-military. The aim is to suggest missions we can promote that will preserve the base. Before the study was started, I asked to see the scope of work we were funding. It included this sentence: "...to conduct a study of DMAFB, the risks it faces, and all missions, projects, and programs that support a vibrant military base." I asked that they change the scope to include at the end of that sentence 'that is located in a dense urban environment.' Staff split the difference and added what I asked but deleted the word 'dense.'

We keep hearing that the A-10 is history. Because the Feds have backed themselves into a corner with sequestration, it might well be. It's also odd that during this ramping up of fighting in the Middle East, if the military folks had their way, the plane likely deemed most suitable for fighting in Syria and that area is the A-10. But they can't come out and promote an aircraft mission that they've already given up for dead now, despite the fact that it's the most suited for that engagement, because it'd run counter to what they've been saying in committees. And they've also gone to great lengths to suggest the F-35 is its replacement, despite the clear evidence that they don't compare when it comes to close air support.

This M&C will do what we can to support the base. And some of us will remind the decision-makers that some missions are great over a cornfield in Nebraska but maybe not so great over densely populated areas in midtown. We'll see where it goes.

DM's critical to our local economy. As with any major operation in an urban setting, it has impacts. Spend some time looking over the Draft EA and submit your thoughts. What I've shared may not be what you take away from the report. Yours thoughts are as valid as are anybody else's.

Alarm Fees

When we adopted the alarm fee ordinance a little more than 2 years ago, I didn't support it for a few reasons. Those included my suspicion that it wouldn't generate the amount of income we were being told that it would (confirmed), that I didn't want to put in place a policy that might discourage people from hardening their own target, and that people are often not the 'cause' of false alarms at their homes and should therefore not be treated as if they were. For October 9th, I've asked for a review of the program and how it's working for both the police force and the community.

Let me say up front that if our Ordinance is doing what it was intended to do, then I'll vote to continue it. But if there's collateral damage that was unintended when we adopted it, we should tweak it. We do that with plenty of other Ordinances we pass once we've had a chance to see them in operation. It's the right thing to do if we see better options.

Ours is a policy by which customers of alarm companies pay us \$20 annually to ensure that TPD responds to their home/business alarms. It is undeniable that a high percentage of the alarms are 'false;' that is, when the police arrive, there's no sign of forced entry or evidence of a crime. But that doesn't mean the homeowner was at fault – and it doesn't mean that the police response time is what it'd need to be in order to catch a criminal in your house. For example, we had a 'false trip' in our house and still to this day have no idea what made the alarm go off (we were away and came home to find the alarm company and a cop at the

house). A friend's parents had a 'false trip' and it took TPD 2 hours to arrive. In both cases, the report filed was a false alarm and we were sent a bill to pay for the response.

Other jurisdictions do it differently, and the results are less of a burden on both the police and the alarm owners. One example is requiring 2 alarm trips before the police respond. If Fido's wandering around your house and tripping motion detectors, you'll still generate a false alarm response. But if a bug crawls over a sensor, you won't. And if a burglar crawls in a window, stays in a room that doesn't have motion detectors, and crawls back out that very same window, you'll only generate a single trip. Nothing's foolproof.

The jurisdiction I've checked that uses such a program has seen responses by their police force drop by nearly 90% with no increase in criminal activity at peoples' homes or businesses. They do not charge an annual fee. Alarm companies concerned over losing customers easily amend their contracts to include sending a private security officer out to the home/business on the first trip. That saves the police from going, is a quicker response, and it provides jobs out in the private sector.

I'll be meeting with TPD representatives later this week to talk about our Ordinance. As I mentioned, I'm going into this study with an open mind. I'm hopeful that we all will, and if a better way's identified, we're open to giving our policy the necessary tweaks.

Opportunity/Equity Forum

I'll be including reminders in these newsletters about the upcoming forum that will give us a chance to share our thoughts on the issue of job/educational opportunities and learn how the matter's perceived by members of the business and educational communities, me, and you. Generally, we will discuss what are we doing well, not so well, and what the connection might be between those factors and some of the racial tensions we see here and in other cities across the country.

On Monday, October 20th, we'll meet at Catalina High School, do a little sharing from the podium, and then open it up to you to share your thoughts. We'll have five of the major players in job creation and two of the major players in education joining me to share and listen. The Arizona Daily Star's Tom Beal will moderate.

Representatives from the Tucson Metro Chamber, Tucson Hispanic Chamber, Black Chamber, GLBT Chamber, National Association of Women Business Owners, TUSD, and Pima College will all be present. It's my hope that the outcome will be a free flow of perspectives, and we'll each leave having heard some ideas we hadn't considered before.

Doors will open at 6pm – we'll begin at 6:30. Please come and participate.

More TUSD

On a related note, I'd like to thank Bryant Nodine from the TUSD administration for his help in getting the Ward 6 office included in the Dodge Traditional Magnet Moving Committee. My initial inquiry of the Committee chair met with a little confusion as to whether or not my office should be partnering with the group at this time. Bryant clarified, and we'll be participating.

This is a big deal change in how the City and the District have been working together. Largely, we hadn't been. And I'm making a big push to see us adopt a new, cooperative approach to issues that have a cross-over effect on schools, parents, and nearby residents. The move from Dodge over to Townsend is one example.

The first meeting of that group is on Wednesday of this week. Amy will be representing the office since I'm committed to meeting with the Best Friends folks to try to rehab the Trap/Neuter/Return program (noted above). I'll keep you up to speed on how that move is progressing and on opportunities for you to be heard along the way. Remember, two of those are already scheduled:

October 15th @ 6pm – the chance to hear about and offer your thoughts on the placement of solar panels on a variety of TUSD school sites. The two Ward 6 sites included in that meeting will be Wright and Blenman. The meeting's at the LIRC Center (2025 E Winsett).

October 30th @ 6pm – the chance to hear about the move of Dodge Magnet over to Townsend and to hear about the sale of Ft. Lowell Elementary School. This meeting will take place at Dodge (5831 E. Pima).

I believe it's important for the residents who live in areas around where these changes are taking place to come and participate in the discussion. We saw recently when the City was AWOL from County Animal Advisory Committee meetings that 'if you're not at the table, you're on the menu.' I'd like that not to reoccur with respect to these TUSD changes.

Modernism Week



From October 3rd through the 11th, Tucson will celebrate Modernism Week, primarily along the Broadway Sunshine Mile. That's between Euclid and Country Club.

Throughout the week there will be a series of events, both for fun and instruction. You can get a full calendar of events by going to www.sunshinemile.com. Click on their events link and it'll take you to the site.

There will be food trucks, car shows, neon bending demonstrations, and tours of the mid-century modern architecture that's still serving local businesses along that stretch of roadway. Many of the businesses are offering discounts

during the week.

The timing of this year's Modernism Week is conveniently coincidental with an October 9th study session in which we're going to hear an update from Staff and the Citizen's Task Force on the progress they're making on the design/redesign of that stretch of Broadway. While that update isn't formally a part of the events associated with the rest of the Modernism Week activities, it's certainly related. If you're interested in seeing any of that study session, right now we're scheduled to begin at 2pm on the 9th. The early release of the agenda makes it look as though the Broadway item would start about an hour into the meeting.



Another event coming up this week is this year's Vamos a Tucson Mexican Baseball Fiesta. It'll be held at Kino Stadium from October 2nd through the 5th.

This is the 4th year for this event, and it has grown both in terms of team participation and fan support each year. This year you'll again see Mexican Pacific League teams as well as a group of instructional league players representing the L.A. Dodgers and Kansas City Royals organizations. The Mexican teams include the Naranjeros de Hermosillo, Tomateros de Culiacan, Yaquis de Obregon, and the Mayos de Navoja. You don't need to recognize them to understand that this is major league quality play. And the events and activities going on around the play on the field are worth the price of admission.

To check out the calendar of events, or to see the ticketing options you can go to the Visit Tucson website. Again this year, the Visit Tucson folks are big supporters of this tournament. It attracts thousands of visitors, fills hotel rooms, and helps to continue the kick-start that our local economy needs.

Proposition 122 - Arizona State Sovereignty Amendment

I can't take positions on ballot initiatives in this newsletter, but I can lay out the facts surrounding Propositions and let you use that as a framework for making your own choices. You've likely seen a ton of signs planted around town advocating for Prop 122. Here's some background that goes beyond the rather simplistic "Keep AZ Taxes in Arizona" theme of the signs.

We've had other 'sovereignty' bills and amendments proposed in the past few legislative sessions. None have been adopted. Generally, this sets up a legal challenge if the State decided to refuse to comply with Federal rules based on a belief that they violated the Federal Constitution. That would include areas such as rules promulgated by the Environmental Protection Agency involving endangered species, information related to crime victims, or medical records protected by the Portability and Accountability Act. The Proposition would be an amendment to the Arizona Constitution that in part says...

C. IF THE PEOPLE OR THEIR REPRESENTATIVES EXERCISE THEIR AUTHORITY PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION, THIS STATE AND ALL POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS OF THIS STATE ARE PROHIBITED FROM USING ANY PERSONNEL OR FINANCIAL RESOURCES TO ENFORCE, ADMINISTER OR COOPERATE WITH THE DESIGNATED FEDERAL ACTION OR PROGRAM.

The Proposition was referred to the ballot by the State legislature. The people who support it include a lineup of familiar conservative faces that represent the State in various capacities. They include State Representatives Chester Crandell and Judy Burges, former State Senator Al Melvin, State Representative Brenda Barton, U.S. Representatives David Schweikert, Trent Franks and Matt Salmon, and Sheriff Joe Arpaio.

If that group reflects your ideology, then perhaps this Proposition's for you. If not, then you may be a 'no' on Prop 122. You can get more information by Googling Arizona Proposition 122. Even its supporters would concede that it'd likely set up some significant litigation between the State and the Federal Government.



Iskashitaa Update

A few weeks ago, I included a section on the local non-profit called Iskashitaa that's working with refugees to help integrate them into the greater Tucson community. One of the tools they're using is community gardens. The one shown in the picture above is at the Desert Courtyard Apartments and Casitas.

Both the Iskashitaa project and Desert Courtyard deserve some mention. They're going above and beyond in their work to come alongside the many refugees who need some assistance. That comes in the form of English lessons, working with them on job preparedness, recreational things such as swimming lessons, and the food element captured in the community gardens.

This work is done in a way that invites the families to bring their own unique customs and values to the table. It's a non-judgmental attempt to celebrate our diversity, educate the refugee community, and educate the broader Tucson community as well.

The garden you see above was started early this year when the apartment complex donated some space for it. Now there are 25 refugee families growing food, some of which is indigenous to their homes but difficult to find here. In addition to integrating important cultural cuisines that they left behind, they're able to share it with other families who live in the apartment complex – some refugees and some not.

They're planning to expand the 'menu' to include fruit trees. If you can help with some funding or trees to assist with their work, give us a call at the Ward 6 office and we'll get you connected. The fruit tree planting day is right now scheduled for Saturday, October 13th.



...And this is not a “community garden.” While our Code Enforcement people go through the required motions, if you’d like to join me in letting “Mickey” know that this is not the best way to market a rental property, feel free.

Short Term Rentals

A quick update on the issue related to 20% of the short term room rentals going off the radar screen, our associated loss out on Bed Tax dollars, and other impacts on the community. When I brought this to the M&C last month, staff was directed to bring back recommendations within 90 days that address how we can bring the non-compliant players into the fold. I’ve now formally requested a study session item for December 9th so we can get that update from staff. I don’t want this to drag on.

During the study session, a couple of the council members wondered how the collection would be achieved. Well, since then I’ve learned that the Home Away Company already simply withholds tax money from clients. They’ve begun to reach out to some of them who are located in Tucson requesting their Tax ID numbers. When questioned as to the reason, they’re saying that they ‘are following IRS Guidelines’ requiring them to either obtain a Tax ID number or simply withhold 28% from payments they make to the rental properties.

The point? Simply that AirBnB, Home Away, and the rest of the Internet rental companies know the rules and have the ability to comply. Staff now knows this and it needs to inform the recommendations they bring back to us in December.

Project Mariposa Update

Finally, we held a steering committee meeting of the Project Mariposa team last week. The general theme was that things are under control, the families are being well cared for by the volunteers, and now we even have the liberty to extend our reach a bit.

Catholic Community Services is still the host site for the Project. It’s offsite from the Greyhound station, but we still have volunteers down there making sure the families get on board and off to their next destination safely. At the intake center the number of families arriving varies wildly. Some days we’ll see none. One day last week we had 17 people show up all at once. Most are now arriving without any travel plans in hand. That’s a new challenge. Previously, ICE had made an effort to coordinate those plans during the initial detention. We suspect that position has been eliminated from the ICE protocols, and so now the burden of making the travel arrangements falls to the Project team. It’s manageable.

There are actually two sites being used in support of the Project. One is the intake center run by CCS. The other is a house that's being used for overnights. CCS has that staffed with a Vista worker, but the load is too heavy for only one person to handle alone. It's 24/7, so the guy needs a break. With that, we're looking for some folks who will donate a few mornings to come in and do basic housework; turning the bedding, some laundry, and so on, generally between 9am and 2pm. If you can step up and lend that sort of a hand, please give Ann Charles a call at my office – 791.4601.

Donations have come in from a wide variety of places. A Mennonite community from the east coast sent about 100 'fun packs' for kids. A Teamster group from the west coast sent over a truckload of things such as blankets and toiletries. And local people continue to play a large role. The most urgent needs include Gatorade, Pedialite, infant formula (in power form), belts, shoelaces, women's undergarments, and Ramen Cup Noodles. We're still the midtown conduit if you've got some of those items you'd like to donate.

The CCS facility may be facing some programmatic challenges as we approach the end of the year. With that in mind, we're gently thinking about other options for when/if we need to move the intake center. It's not imminent, but we don't want to be forced into making a snap decision, so it's on our minds. We've made it work in a bus station and now have multiple rooms and an outdoor kids' play area, so this is a creative and flexible group that will be able to keep this work going as long as the needs continue flowing through Tucson. Give us a call if you'd like to lend a hand.

Sincerely,



Steve Kozachik
Council Member, Ward 6
Ward6@tucsonaz.gov

Events Calendar

What's happening this week in the Downtown, 4th Avenue, and Main Gate areas . . .

Sunday Evening Forum of Tucson Welcomes Linda Ronstadt

Fox Theatre, 17 W Congress St

October 5th at 7:00PM

Tucson's own Linda Ronstadt will be interviewed by longtime friend, Jeff Haskell, during this special Sunday Evening Forum at the Fox.

The event is FREE and open to the public. Tickets are only available for pick up at the Fox Box Office on October 5th (Day of the Event) starting at 4:30pm.

www.FoxTucsonTheatre.org

Mental Health Safe Space: *know the facts • learn the signs • provide help*

is a FREE 90 minute training that leaves you with practical information about mental illness and skills to identify and support those in mental health distress. We invite you to be a member of our **live studio audience** as we offer a FREE training at Access Tucson during National Mental Illness Awareness Week.

Space is limited. RSVP by clicking the link below.

<http://www.eventbrite.com/e/mental-health-safe-space-free-community-training-live-to-tape-tickets-13167262637>



know the facts • learn the signs • provide help



AccessTucson
Community Media
accesstucson.org



Cyclovía Tucson

November 2nd 10:00AM – 3:00PM

Join us! Feldman's Neighborhood is hosting a table for neighbors to learn more about Feldman's and fun games for kiddos around us like bean bag tosses, hula hoops, chalk art and jump ropes. Stop by the table to sign up for future notices about upcoming neighborhood tree plantings and walkability assessments. We'll also be raising funds for the trees with a bake sale, lemonade and hot cocoa stand!

Ongoing

Tucson Symphony Orchestra 260 S. Church Ave

2014-15 Season Opening Weekend! This classic American program kicks things off in high style with Bernstein's Three Dance Episodes from the 1944 musical, "On the Town", George Gershwin's Piano Concerto performed by Mr. Lefèvre and concludes with the essential American symphony, Aaron Copland's Symphony No. 3. Two performances on Friday, Sept. 26, 2014 at 8 p.m. and Sunday, Sept. 28, 2014 at 2 p.m.

Arizona Theater Company, 330 S Scott Ave

“Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike” The winner of the 2013 Tony Award for Best Play! Written by Christopher Durang, Directed by Joel Sass

September 13 – October 4, 2014

<http://www.arizonatheatre.org/>

Fox Theatre, 17 W Congress St

www.FoxTucsonTheatre.org

Rialto Theatre, 318 E Congress St

<http://www.rialtotheatre.com/>

The Rogue Theatre at The Historic Y, 300 E University Blvd

<http://www.theroguetheatre.org/main.htm>

Hotel Congress, 311 E Congress St

<http://hotelcongress.com>

Loft Cinema, 3233 E Speedway Blvd

www.loftcinema.com

Tucson Museum of Art, 140 N Main Ave

www.TucsonMusuemofArt.org

Jewish History Museum, 564 S Stone Ave

Temple of Shadows. August 21st to November 1st.

Jewish History Museum invites the public to view 15 prints showing the Museum before its renovation in black and white and afterwards infused with color.

www.jewishhistorymuseum.org

Children's Museum Tucson, 200 S 6th Ave

Tuesday - Friday: 9:00am - 5:00pm; Saturdays & Sundays: 10:00am - 5:00pm

www.childrensmuseumtucson.org

Arizona State Museum, 1013 E University Blvd

Opening October 18, 2014

Regarding Curtis: Contemporary Indian Artists Respond to the Imagery of Edward S.

Curtis Whether romanticized or contested, the enduring power of the imagery of Edward S. Curtis has informed contemporary notions of Native American identity and perception. By inviting contemporary Indian artists to respond to these issues of identity and perception, we carry this dialogue into the present day, both visually and intellectually.

www.statemuseum.arizona.edu

UA Mineral Museum, 1601 E University Blvd

Now through December 2014, “The Best of the Best: Prize Minerals from the Vaults of Arizona’s Collectors.”

<http://www.uamineralmuseum.org/>

Southern Arizona Transportation Museum, 414 N Toole Ave.

Explore regional transportation history, and see a freight trains passing by, or ring the locomotive bell at the Southern Arizona Transportation Museum every Saturday, year round.

Tuesday – Thursday, Sunday: 1100am - 3:00pm

Friday & Saturdays: 10:00am - 4:00pm

<http://www.tucsonhistoricdepot.org>

Sacred Machine Museum & Curiosity Shop, 245 E Congress St

<http://sacredmachine.com>

Meet Me at Maynards, 311 E Congress St (north entrance on Toole)

A social walk/run through the Downtown area

Every Monday, rain or shine, holidays too!

Hotel Congress Check-in begins at 5:15pm.

www.MeetMeatMaynards.com

Tucson Botanical Gardens, 2150 N Alvernon Way

<http://www.tucsonbotanical.org>